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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/726,391	GEBRESELAASSIE ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Essama Omgba	3726	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendments filed October 31, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 43-47, 49-58 and 65-69.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
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***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 43-47, 49-58 and 65-69 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: for claims 43 and 65, the prior art does not teach a method of installing a vehicle cockpit assembly within a passenger compartment of a vehicle, the passenger compartment separated from an engine compartment by a firewall, the method comprising providing a dash insulator of thermoformable material that is configured to be attached to the firewall, attaching an instrument panel to a first edge portion of the dash insulator via an adhesive, wherein the adhesive serves as a hinge that allows the instrument panel and dash insulator to move relative to each other to facilitate installation of the cockpit assembly within the vehicle passenger compartment, these in combination with the rest of the limitations in the claims. For claim 50, the prior art does not teach a method of installing a vehicle cockpit assembly within a passenger compartment of a vehicle, the passenger compartment separated from an engine compartment by a firewall, the method comprising providing a dash insulator of thermoformable material that is configured to be attached to the firewall, attaching a floor covering a second edge portion of the dash insulator via adhesive, wherein the adhesive serves as a hinge that allows the floor covering and dash insulator to move relative to each other to facilitate installation of the cockpit assembly within the vehicle passenger compartment, these in combination with the rest of the limitations in the claim. For claim 51, the prior art does not teach a method of installing a vehicle cockpit assembly within a passenger compartment of a vehicle, the passenger compartment separated from an engine

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compartment by a firewall, the method comprising providing a dash insulator of thermoformable material that is configured to be attached to the firewall, attaching an instrument panel to an upper substrate of the dash insulator first edge portion via an adhesive to form a first cockpit assembly portion, attaching a floor covering to a lower substrate of the dash insulator fourth edge portion via adhesive to form a second cockpit assembly portion, these in combination with the rest of the limitations in the claim .

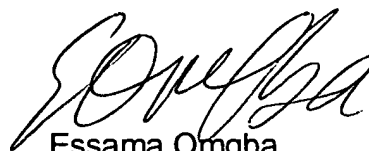
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Essama Omgba whose telephone number is (571) 272-4532. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-6:30, 1st Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bryant can be reached on (571) 272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Essama Omgba  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3726

eo  
November 9, 2005